

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

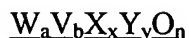
Claims 1-9 (Cancelled).

10. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing an unsaturated aldehyde or carboxylic acid comprising subjecting an alkane to catalytic oxidation in the presence of a catalyst prepared by ~~the a process of claim 5~~ comprising:

(A) admixing metal compounds, at least one of which is an oxygen-containing compound, and at least one solvent to form a solution,

(B) removing said at least one solvent from the solution to obtain a catalyst precursor,
and

(C) calcining said catalyst precursor at a temperature of from 350⁰C to 850⁰C under an inert atmosphere to form a catalyst having the formula



wherein a, b, x and y are molar fractions of W, V, X and Y, respectively, based on the total amount of W, V, X and Y, and n is the molar proportion of oxygen as determined by the oxidation state of W, V, X and Y,

wherein a, b, x and y satisfy the following relationships

$$0.25 < a < 0.98$$

$$0.003 < b < 0.5$$

$$0.003 < x < 0.5$$

$$0.003 < y < 0.2$$

wherein X is at least one element selected from the group consisting of Te, Bi, Sb and Se,

wherein Y comprises Mo.

11. (New) A process for preparing an unsaturated aldehyde or carboxylic acid comprising subjecting an alkane to catalytic oxidation in the presence of a catalyst prepared by a process comprising:

- (A) admixing metal compounds, at least one of which is an oxygen-containing compound, and at least one solvent to form a solution;
 - (B) removing said at least one solvent from the solution to obtain a catalyst precursor;
- and
- (C) calcining said catalyst precursor at a temperature of from 350°C to 850°C under an inert atmosphere to form a catalyst comprising:

Mo present in a molar fraction not greater than 0.20;

V present in a molar fraction from 0.003 to 0.5;

at least one of Te, or, Bi, or, Sb, or Se present in a molar fraction from 0.003 to 0.5; and

at least one of Nb, or Ta, or Ti, or Al, or Zr, or Cr, or Mn, or Fe, or Ru, or Co, or Rh, or Ni, or Pd, or Pt, or B, or In, or Ce present in a molar fraction from 0.003 to 0.5.

12. (New) A process for preparing an unsaturated aldehyde or carboxylic acid comprising subjecting an alkane to catalytic oxidation in the presence of a catalyst prepared by a process comprising:

(A) admixing metal compounds, at least one of which is an oxygen-containing compound, and at least one solvent to form a solution,

(B) removing said at least one solvent from the solution to obtain a catalyst precursor, and

(C) calcining said catalyst precursor at a temperature of from 350⁰C to 850⁰C under an inert atmosphere to form a catalyst comprising:

W present in a molar fraction from 0.25 to 0.98;

Mo present in a molar fraction not greater than 0.20;

V present in a molar fraction from 0.003 to 0.5;

at least one of Te, or, Bi, or, Sb, or Se present in a molar fraction from 0.003 to 0.5; and

at least one of Nb, or Ta, or Ti, or Al, or Zr, or Cr, or Mn, or Fe, or Ru, or Co, or Rh, or Ni, or Pd, or Pt, or B, or In, or Ce present in a molar fraction from 0.003 to 0.5.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and MPEP §§ 609 I.A.2. and 609 D., Applicants hereby submit the attached Form PTO-1449, in duplicate, which lists thereon all of the documents officially cited to the United States Patent Trademark Office and officially made of record in connection with Applicants' co-pending parent application, U.S. Serial No. 09/754,942, filed January 4, 2001. Pursuant to MPEP §§ 609 I.A.2. and 609 D., since the present application is a divisional of parent application U.S. Serial No. 09/754,942 and all of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 were officially considered and made of record in the parent application, it is believed that the attached Form PTO-1449 is sufficient to enable the Examiner in charge of the present divisional application to consider and make officially of record all of the documents listed thereon. Thus, no copies of any of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being submitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made, nor that no other material information, as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a), exists. Furthermore, inclusion of a document on the attached Form PTO-1449 is not intended to constitute an admission that any document so disclosed is "prior art" with respect to the present invention unless specifically so stated herein.

In the foregoing circumstances, it is respectfully requested that each of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be officially made of record in the present divisional application and printed on the face of any patent which issues therefrom.